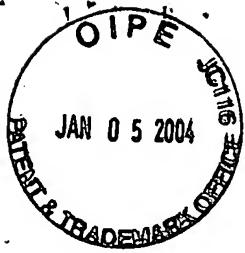


REMARKS**Summary of the Office Action**

Claims 1-4, 8, and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsumura et al. (US 2002/0033813) in view of Sato (US 5,956,006), claims 5-7, 10, 11, 13, and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsumura et al. in view of Sato and Kuga (US 5,828,367), and claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsumura et al. in view of Sato, Kuga, and Kasahara et al. (US 6,414,657).

On December 17, 2001, Applicant filed a Claim for Priority and a Certified copy of Korean Patent Application No. 2001-032364. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.55(a), Applicant submits concurrently herewith a verified translation of Korean Patent Application No. 2001-032364 to establish the earlier date of invention for the Applicant's invention. MPEP § 2141.01 instructs that “[a] 35 U.S.C. 103 rejection is based on 35 U.S.C. 102(a), 102(b), 102(e), etc. depending on the type of prior art reference used and its publications or issue date.” Accordingly, an obviousness rejection based on a publication that would be applied under §102(e) if it anticipated the claims can be overcome by submission of a verified translation of the priority document. Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that Matsumura et al. should be removed as prior art in this application.

For at least the above reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections under U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.



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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner believe that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

By: _____


David B. Hardy
Reg. No. 47,362

Dated: January 5, 2004

Customer Number: 009629

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP
1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004
202-739-3000